

ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF GERMAN SEARCH REPORT

German Patent and Trademark Office

Munich, October 21, 2004
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Your Reference: P TM81202-LS

German Patent and Trademark Office • 80297 Munich

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Your Request of: January 29, 2004
for a Search according to §43 Patent Act

**Please provide file reference and applicant/
owner in all submissions and payments**

File Reference: 10 2004 004 422.8

Search Report

A. Classification of the application subject matter according to the International Patent Classification (IPC)

IPC 07
H 05 K 7/02
H 01 R 43/02

B. Searched fields

Class/Group	Examiner	Patent Department
H 05 K 7/02	JUERGEN SCHUSTER	34
H 05 H 7/02	DR. NORBERT BORA	54

The search in the German Patent and Trademark Office is based on the patent literature of the following countries and organizations:

Germany (DE,DD), Austria, Switzerland, France, Great Britain, U.S.A., Japan (Abstracts), former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (Abstracts), European Patent Office, WIPO.

A search was carried out in the following databases:
Name of the database and of the host

DOKIDX

Classes/groups specified in section A but not explicitly mentioned in section B either were determined by an IPC encompassing database search or merely serve as documentation and information. In classes/groups specified in section B, but not mentioned in section A, the search was conducted with the result indicated in section C.

C. Result of the printed document search

Cat.	Documents found	Annotations	Rel. Claims	IPC/Sources
Y	US 63 73 128 B1	Fig. 8, corresponding text	1, 5	DOKIDX
Y	US 49 03 114	Fig. 7, corresponding text	1, 2, 5	DOKIDX

D. The following literature and citations are not available to the German Patent and Trademark Office:

The search cannot extend to prior art which is cited by the Applicant himself/herself, but which is not available to the German Patent and Trademark Office. If it is intended to present an Examination Request pursuant to § 44 of the Patent Act, the Applicant is requested to file copies of this literature for the official file.

E. Date of completion of the search: October 15, 2004

USPS EXPRESS MAIL
EV 636 852 125 US
JULY 24 2006

Completeness of the findings:

No guarantee is given for the completeness of the findings of the relevant documents and for the correctness of the specified categories (§43, para. 7, sentence 1, Patent Act, or §7, paragraph 2, Utility Model Act in connections with §43, para. 7, sentence 1, Patent Act).

Mailing date of the search report

Enclosures: 2

Patent Department 1.11
Search Head Office

Notes on Section C. Result of the printed document search

Column: Cat(egory)

Meaning:

- X:** Documents which, on their own, make novelty or inventive step (§43 Patent Act) / inventive activity (§7 Utility Model Act) questionable
- Y:** Documents which, together with other documents, make an inventive step (§43 Patent Act) / inventive activity (§7 Utility Model Act) questionable
- A:** General prior art, technological background
- O:** Non-written disclosure, e.g. a speech which was given publicly before the application date or priority date and was printed in a later published document
- P:** Documents published in the priority interval
- T:** Later published, non-colliding documents which relate to the theory of the invention of the application, and which could be useful for a better understanding of the invention of the application, or which show that the conceptual steps or circumstances on which the invention of the application is based could be incorrect
- E:** Older applications in accordance with § 3 para 2 Patent Act (in searches in accordance with §43 Patent Act) / earlier patent or utility model applications in accordance with §15 Utility Model Act (in searches in accordance with §7 Utility Model Act)
- D:** Documents which are already named in the patent application (in searches in accordance with §43 Patent Act) / documents which were already named in the application or in the utility model (in searches in accordance with §7 Utility Model Act)
- L:** Documents which are named for special reasons, e.g. in relation to the date of publication of a reference or if doubts exist concerning the priority.

Column: Annotations

The annotations and relevant passages cited in the search process are presented in this column separately from the cited publication. The abbreviations and symbols used in the identification of a document mean:

Publ.: Publication date of a document in the priority interval

=: Documents which can be attributed to the same originating application ("patent families") or documents to which references or abstracts relate

In class/group citations where no documents are identified, the symbol
"-": means: Nothing found

Column: Rel(ates to) claims

Here are set forth the claims in association with the remarks made in the column "Annotations".

Notes on the patent literature:

The cited patent literature can be inspected in the Publication Halls of the German Patent Office, 80331 Muenchen, Zweibrueckenstr. 12 or 10969 Berlin, Gitschiner Str. 97; German patents, published patent applications or laying-open prints and partially also patent literature of other countries also in the Patent Information Centers. A list of these Patent Information Centers can be obtained from the German Patent and Trademark Office and also from some private companies.

Online searches of patent publications from all over the world, which are located in the data records of the internal German official patent information system DEPATIS are possible at no cost at <http://www.depatis.net>